

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
AID-05 /084 W
-----118600 081851Z /64

P 081704Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8412
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

UNCLAS BOGOTA 5408

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, CO
SUBJ: ELECTION RESULTS: TURBAY POSTPONES VENEZUELA
VISIT TO AWAIT OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

REF: (A) BOGOTA 5344 (B) BOGOTA 5298

1. THE CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS OF THE APPARENTLY VICTORIOUS
LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JULIO CESAR TURBAY ANNOUNCED
THAT TURBAY WOULD POSTPONE HIS VISIT TO VENEZUELA WHICH HAD
BEEN PLANNED FOR JUNE 9. THE LIBERAL LEADER, INSTEAD, WILL
REMAIN IN COLOMBIA AWAITING MORE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE
JUNE 4 ELECTION.

2. UNDER COLOMBIAN LAW, VOTES ARE ROUTINELY SCRUTINIZED IN
A THREE-STEP PROCESS FOLLOWING THE ELECTION. AFTER A REVIEW
OF INDIVIDUAL BALLOTS AT THE VOTING TABLES ON ELECTION DAY,
THE DISTRICT'S RESULTS ARE SCRUTINIZED ONE WEEK LATER BY
OFFICIALS OF THE VOTING DISTRICT. SEVEN DAYS AFTER THIS.
EACH DEPARTMENT'S RESULTS ARE REVIEWED BY ELECTORAL COURT
OFFICIALS AT THE DEPARTMENT CAPITALS. FINALLY, THE
ELECTORAL COURT ITSELF MAKES A GENERAL REVIEW ONCE ALL
THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENTS.
CHALLENGES TO VOTING RESULTS CAN BE MADE AT ANY STEP IN
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THE PROCESS, BUT ARE EXPECTED TO OCCUR MAINLY AT THE
VOTING DISTRICT LEVEL. ONCE THE VOTING DISTRICTS MAKE
THEIR DECISIONS, THE PROCEDURE SHOULD FLOW ROUTINELY TO
THE ELECTORAL COURT, THE ONLY ENTITY ABLE TO DECLARE AN
OFFICIAL WINNER AND PRESENT HIM WITH HIS CREDENTIALS AS
PRESIDENT-ELECT.

3. COMMENT: THE CALM ATMOSPHERE PREVAILING IN THE NATION
HAS BEEN RUFFLED ONLY OCCASIONALLY BY MINOR, PEACEFUL DEMON-
STRATIONS FOR OR AGAINST TURBAY AND BETANCUR.
NO NEW OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF VOTING FIGURES HAS
BEEN ISSUED SINCE NO. 5 OF JUNE 6 (REF B).
DREXLER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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